WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an Aβ peptide and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant effective to induce an immune response comprising antibodies to Aβ in a patient, wherein the adjuvant enhances the immune response to Aβ.

2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant comprises alum.

3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant comprises monophosphoryl lipid (MPL).

4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant comprises Quillaja Saponaria Molina (QS21).

5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant comprises GM-CSF.

6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant comprises M-CSF.

7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the Aβ peptide is encapsulated within a particle.

8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the particle is a polylactide polyglycolide copolymer (PLPG) particle.

9. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which comprises greater than 10 μg of the Aβ peptide.

10. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which comprises at least 20 μg of the Aβ peptide.

11. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which comprises at least 50 μg of the Aβ peptide.

12. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which comprises at least 100 μg of the Aβ peptide.

13. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ43.

14. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the Aβ peptide is SEQ ID NO:1.

15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ42.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-42 of SEQ ID NO:1.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ41.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-41 of SEQ ID NO:1.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ40.

20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 19, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-40 of SEQ ID NO:1.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ39.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-39 of SEQ ID NO:1.

23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which is free of Complete Freund's adjuvant.

24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of alum, monophosphoryl lipid (MPL), Quillaja Saponaria Molina (QS21), GM-CSF, and M-CSF.

25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, which comprises greater than 10 μg of the Aβ peptide.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, which comprises at least 20 μg of the Aβ peptide.

27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, which comprises at least 50 μg of the Aβ peptide.

28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, which comprises at least 100 μg of the Aβ peptide.

29. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ43.

30. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 29, wherein the Aβ peptide is SEQ ID NO:1.

31. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ42.

32. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 31, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-42 of SEQ ID NO:1.

33. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ41.

34. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-41 of SEQ ID NO:1.

35. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ40.

36. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-40 of SEQ ID NO:1.

37. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the Aβ peptide is Aβ39.

38. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein the Aβ consists of amino acid residues 1-39 of SEQ ID NO:1.